#### State of California — Franchise Tax Board

## Tax Practitioner Guidelines for Computer-Prepared Returns

### Introduction

The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) has established these guidelines for tax practitioners who use personal computers to computer-prepare the following personal income tax returns and business entity tax vouchers filed on paper:

- Form 100-ES, Corporation Estimated Tax;
- Form 540, California Resident Income Tax Return;
- Form 540-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals;
- Form 540 2EZ, California Resident Income Tax Return;
- Form 540NR, California Nonresident or Part-Year Resident Income Tax Return (Long and Short);
- Form 540X, Amended Individual Income Tax Return;
- · Form 541-ES, Estimated Tax for Fiduciaries;
- Form FTB 3519, Automatic Extension for Individuals;
- Form FTB 3522, LLC Tax Voucher;
- Form FTB 3537, Automatic Extension for LLCs;
- Form FTB 3538, Automatic Extension for LPs, LLPs, and REMICs;
- Form FTB 3539, Automatic Extension for Corps and Exempt Orgs;
- Form FTB 3563, Automatic Extension for Fiduciaries;
- Form FTB 3582, Voucher for Individual e-filed Returns;
- Form FTB 3586, Voucher for Corp e-filed Returns;
- Form FTB 3587 Voucher for LP, LLP, and REMIC e-filed Returns; and
- Form FTB 3588 Voucher for LLC e-filed Return.

This publication also provides information on:

- · California's e-file Program. See page 8.
- Filing Business Entity returns, including paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568). See page 10.

If you prepare your clients' tax returns by hand, you must use the official forms as printed and distributed by the FTB or an FTB-approved substitute version.

By following these guidelines, you help accelerate processing and get your clients' refunds to them faster.

As a tax practitioner, you do not need approval from us to computer-prepare your clients' tax returns. However, make sure that the tax software you use produces FTB-approved forms. Ask your software provider for a copy of its FTB-approval letter for the form(s) you want to prepare.

**Note:** If you use electronic software that allows you the ability to create tax forms that your clients will file with FTB, they may need our approval first. Get FTB Pub. 1098, Guidelines for the Development and Use of Substitute, Scannable, and Reproduced Tax Forms, and form FTB 1096, Agreement to Comply with FTB Pub. 1098, Annual Requirements, for more information.

To ensure you receive software updates and other information necessary to produce FTB-approved forms, register with your software provider, as necessary, upon receiving the product.

#### What's New for 2006

#### **Business e-file Program**

Starting January 2007, FTB is adding an e-file option for the following business entity taxpayers:

- Corporations who file Form 100S, California S Corporation Franchise or Income Tax Return,
- Partnerships who file Form 565, Partnership Return of Income, and

FTB Pub. 1095D

- Limited Liability Companies who file Form 568, Limited Liability Company Return of Income, and
- · Specific attached forms and schedules.

These forms join the successful 2006 e-file season for corporations filing Form 100, California Corporation Franchise or Income Tax Return.

Check with your software provider to see if they include Business e-file in their product. For more information about FTB's Business e-file program, go to www.ftb.ca.gov and search for Business e-file.

## New Business Entity Vouchers and the Scannable Format

For 2006, FTB adds Business Entity vouchers FTB 3587 and 3588 to the existing pool of BE and PIT scannable vouchers FTB 3519, 3522, 3537, 3538, 3539, 3563, 3582, 3586, and Forms 100-ES, 540-ES, and 541-ES, and scannable Form 540, that we will support in a scannable format. In an effort to expedite processing, reduce costs, and minimize manual intervention, we request that software companies no longer produce or support these forms in a format other than scannable.

#### **New Forms**

#### **New Scannable Vouchers:**

Form FTB 3587 – Voucher for LP, LLP, and REMIC e-filed Returns

Form FTB 3588 - Voucher for LLC e-filed Returns

For 2006, the following new tax deposit vouchers will be available in a substitute format only:

- Form FTB 3576 Tax Deposit Voucher for Individuals
- Form FTB 3577 Tax Deposit Voucher for Corporations
- Form FTB 3578 Tax Deposit Voucher for LLCs
- Form FTB 3579 Tax Deposit Voucher for LPs, LLPs, or REMICs
- Form FTB 3581 Tax Deposit Refund or Transfer Request

#### Other New Forms:

- Form FTB 3725, Assets Transferred from Parent Corporation to Insurance Company Subsidiary
- Form FTB 8453-LLC, California e-file Authorization for LLCs
- Form FTB 8453-P, California e-file Authorization for LPs, LLPs and REMICs

#### **Format Changes**

Scannable Form 540 has numerous format changes.

 The taxpayer and spouse date of death is back in the Taxpayer Entity area and, if applicable, will print after the primary or spouse last name.

- The PACARRP "RP" box is configured differently and, when applicable, based on your input, the software you use will print these codes to designate special processing:
  - U = Military
  - 9 = Disaster
  - D = Taxpayer diseased
  - C = Spouse diseased

See the special instructions for "Disaster and Military Designations on Scannable 540" on this page.

- To save space on all official forms, FTB removed the separate box for Private Mail Box (PMB). Taxpayers will enter their PMB, when applicable, in the address field (e.g., 1200 Hollow Way, PMB 123). Scannable forms and payment vouchers are not affected by this change.
- Beginning with tax year 2006, taxpayers may request Direct Deposit of their refund to two separate bank accounts on all personal income tax returns.
- Due dates on scannable estimate vouchers (Forms 100-ES, 540-ES, and 541-ES) prints above the form number on print line 46, and below the "DETACH HERE" line in Courier 8-point font.
- Scannable Form 100-ES installment number will print above the form number, on print line 46, and below the "DETACH HERE" line in Courier 8-point font. (e.g., Voucher 1)
- FTB assigned new generic numbers to identify all forms processed through our automated system. The generic number prints in the bottom margin between the brackets. (e.g., "3101066" represents scannable Form 540, Side 1)
- Tax software companies have a new location to print their FTBassigned company ID no. The ID must print on all computergenerated CA forms the company includes in their tax software products. The ID must print in the bottom margin immediately in front of the left-hand bracket.

#### **Voluntary Contributions**

One new voluntary contribution is added to Forms 540, 540 2EZ, Long and Short 540NR, and official Forms 540A and 541.

#### CA Sea Otter Fund

The California Coastal Conservancy and the Department of Fish and Game will each be allocated 50% of the contributions. The California Coastal Conservancy will use the contributions for research and programs related to the near-shore ecosystem, including sea otters. The Department of Fish and Game will use the contributions to establish a sea otter fund within the department's index coding system for increased investigation, prevention, and enforcement action.

#### One Voluntary Contribution is Removed:

· CA Prostate Cancer Research Fund

### **Important Reminders**

## "Amount of Payment" – Exception for all Estimate Vouchers

To better meet taxpayers' expectations and enable us to optimize efficient processing of scannable estimate vouchers (Forms 100-ES, 540-ES, and 541-ES), we will allow software programs to leave the taxpayer's "Amount of payment" dollar amount blank. This provides a solution for your clients who determine their estimate payment amount at a later date allowing them to enter the payment amount by hand.

**Note:** To help ensure accurate processing of your clients' payments, use the current year's payment vouchers when paying current year tax liabilities.

#### California Secretary of State (SOS) File No.

- The SOS file no. is always numeric and must begin with a "19" or "20." (The "19" and "20" represents the first two digits of the year the file number was assigned to the taxpayer by the Secretary of State.) (e.g., "2004123456789")
- The SOS file no. can be 10 or 12 digits long. When it is 10 digits, the software you use will precede it with zeros. (e.g., "001234567890")
- If the SOS file no. is not available to you, the software you use will zero fill the SOS File No. field (e.g., 000000000000)

#### **Use of Hyphens in Street Address Field**

We allow the use of hyphens in the taxpayer's street address field only. Use hyphens in this field on all personal income tax and business income tax forms and vouchers (scannable and substitute versions).

# Disaster and Military Designations on Scannable Form 540 and Substitute Computer-Generated Forms 540 2EZ, Long and Short 540NR, and 540X

We continue to enlist the support from preparers to identify their clients with a disaster or military special processing requirement. In addition to instructions to "write the disaster or military special circumstance, in red ink, in the top margin on Side 1," of scannable Form 540, and substitute computer-generated Forms 540 2EZ, Long and Short 540NR, and, if applicable, 540X, the tax software you use will print code "9" (Disaster)" and code "U" (Military) in the PACARRP area's "RP" box.

#### **Disasters**

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Certain disasters legislatively grant additional time for taxpayers to file returns and make tax payments, including estimated tax payments (IRC 7508A / R&TC 18572). We **do** abate interest and any late filing or late payment penalties during the extension period.

Please ensure the following information is written in red ink in the top margin of your clients' California tax return:

 Disaster – enter the specific name of the disaster (e.g., 2006 Northern California flooding, mudslides, and landslides)

Although the disaster code in the PACARRP area's "RP" box will tell us the taxpayer was affected by some disaster, we also need the **specific disaster** identified **in red ink** in the top margin of the return. With this specific information, we can process the return quickly with the correct extension, if an extension was granted, and adjust interest and penalties as needed.

For more details about How to Claim a State Tax Deduction for Your Disaster Loss, get FTB Pub. 1034.

#### Military - Combat Zone/Overseas

Combat Zone – Members of the Armed Forces (including National Guard and reservists called to active duty) and civilians acting under the direction of the Armed Forces in support of those forces, are allowed an extension of 180 days after leaving a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area (QHDA) for filing returns and paying taxes without interest or penalties. In addition to the 180 days, they are allowed an additional extension of up to 107 days (the number of days they were in a combat zone or QHDA during the filing season).

We need the following information **written in red ink** in the top margin of the return:

- Combat Zone
- Location or area served:
- Dates of deployment: From  $\square \square / \square \square / \square \square$  To  $\square \square / \square \square / \square \square$

With this information, we can allow the correct extended due date, adjust interest and penalties as needed, and prevent premature billings from being mailed.

Military Overseas – Members of the Armed Forces (including National Guard and reservists called to active duty) and Merchant Marines working beyond the boundaries of the United States, are allowed an extension of 180 days after returning from overseas for filing returns and paying tax without interest or penalties.

We need the following information **written in red ink** in the top margin of the return:

- · Military Overseas
- Dates of deployment: From □□/□□/□□ To □□/□□/□□

With this information, we can allow the correct extended due date, adjust interest and penalties as needed, and prevent premature billings from being mailed.

For more details about Tax Information for Military Personnel, get FTB Pub. 1032. Go to **www.ftb.ca.gov** to get or view these publications.

#### FTB Conforms with IRS Notice 2004-54

We will accept the same alternative forms of signature as described in IRS Notice 2004-54. Specifically, it will permit income tax return preparers to sign original returns, amended returns, or requests for filing extensions by rubber stamp, mechanical device, or computer software program. These alternative methods of signing must include either a facsimile of the individual preparer's signature or the individual preparer's printed name.

Income tax return preparers who use alternative methods of signing must provide all of the other preparer information that is required on returns and extensions, such as the name, address, relevant employer identification number, the preparer's individual identification number (social security number or preparer tax identification number), and phone number.

#### **To Verify Personal Income Tax Estimate Payments**

A significant number of personal income tax returns fall out during processing because taxpayers claim the wrong amount of estimate payment. Confirming personal income tax estimate payments first will resolve many issues where your clients claim amounts or payments that we don't have on record. This could reduce the number of notices your clients receive in connection with claiming the wrong amount of payments, which is frustrating for you and your clients.

How can you help? Go to our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov under Tools and select Check your account:

- Estimated tax payments,
- · Recent payments applied to a balance due,
- · The total current balance due, and
- A summary of each balance due tax year on the account.
- Your amnesty balance after you applied for amnesty.

You or your clients will need the following information to complete one of the requests listed above:

- · Social security number, and
- 2006 Customer Service Number (CSN)(see Power of Attorney Program, page 10).

#### A Note about Customer Service Numbers (CSN)

We issue a new CSN to every taxpayer each calendar year. The number is only valid during the year for which it is assigned. Your clients can get their current year CSN online at www.ftb.ca.gov. To ensure the security of taxpayer information, **be sure to use the log off button to exit** the View Payments and Balance Due application. For information about your client's federal income tax account, please contact the IRS at (800) 829-1040.

### **Envelope Guidelines**

Please use these guidelines if you provide pre-printed envelopes or labels to customers for delivery to FTB. Doing so will expedite processing and reduce processing problems.

- Use white envelopes only no colored envelopes, please. (Tax practitioners may use their current supply of colored envelopes as long as they have the correct ZIP +4 on them, before changing over to white envelopes.
- · Use sans serif fonts.
- Ensure envelopes you use contain the correct address and ZIP +4 extension.

Check with your envelope supplier to make sure your supply of envelopes uses sans serif fonts and contains current year FTB return mail addresses or check our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov for current year FTB return mail addresses.

### What is Needed to Computer-Prepare California Tax Forms

Tax practitioners must produce computer-prepared forms using:

- · Software that produces FTB-approved forms;
- Personal computer hardware required by the software to produce FTB-approved forms (i.e., printer fonts, etc.);
- Good quality, white, standard, stock machine paper (8 1/2 x 11 at minimum 20 lb. weight);
- · Black ink; and
- Software user manuals that include instructions for correctly producing FTB-approved forms.

In addition, reading your software provider's user manual (and ALL "Read Me's," etc.) will help ensure you have the necessary hardware and printer fonts to correctly produce FTB-approved forms. Note: "Read Me's" are a great resource tool to learn about enhancements or revisions made to the software you use.

#### All printing must be:

- · Laser or ink jet;
- Courier 12-point, or standard print font (no bold font);
- · Alpha characters must be in upper case;
- Original printed output (no corrections or photocopies accepted); and
- On one side of the paper (scannable forms only).

# General Information About Scannable Form 540

(A graphic of this form is shown on page 12.)

We use an automated processing system to capture information from scannable Form 540, rather than having the information entered manually by key data operators (KDOs).

Scannable Form 540 **must** have a scannable band (scanband) area that contains the taxpayer's tax data. The scanband directly follows the taxpayer's Entity area (Name and Address) on Side 1. The two-digit field numbers in the scanband correspond to the line numbers, direct deposit, and practitioner areas found on sides 1 and 2. Even though the tax data will print in the scanband and the conventional area of the form, only the tax data in the scanband will be "captured." Monetary amounts in the scanband **must** be

whole dollars only, without decimal points or other punctuation. The rest of scannable Form 540 is like the official form.

To ensure the integrity of the scanband data, if <u>any</u> corrections are made, you must reprint the entire scannable Form 540 return before your client (or you) mail it to FTB.

**Note:** We will capture the tax practitioner's identification number, i.e., federal employer identification number (FEIN), and the preparer's tax identification number (PTIN), or social security number (SSN) from all personal and corporation income tax returns.

## Guidelines on How to Enter Taxpayer Entity Information on Computer-Prepared Personal Income Tax Returns (scannable Form 540 and substitute Forms 540 2EZ, Long and Short 540NR, and 540X)

Taxpayer entity information is arranged in fixed positions with defined field lengths. Each field is dedicated to hold specific information such as:

- · Spouse name;
- · Executor/guardian name;
- Apartment number and/or letter;
- Private mailbox (for the "PMB" to print) and PMB number (or letter);
- Deceased date of taxpayer or taxpayer's spouse, if any; and
- · Prior name, if any.

It is critical that you enter the taxpayer entity information correctly. This will help us to accurately process your clients' tax returns, and help ensure that your clients' refund checks print with the correct name(s) and address. Your clients' entity information should print like the examples shown under "Taxpayer Entity Information Examples" shown on page 5.

## Two Asterisks (\*\*) in the Entity – THIS IS CRITICAL

Two asterisks (\*\*) in the taxpayer entity area indicates to us that certain taxpayer information is **UNCHANGED** from last year. Print two asterisks ONLY if the taxpayer (and taxpayer's spouse, if any):

- Filed a California Form 540, 540A, 540 2EZ, or Long or Short 540NR tax return last year;
- Did not change the address shown on last year's tax return;
- Has the same social security number (SSN) or ITIN, if applicable, as last year;
- Has the same name (first, middle, and last) as last year;
- · Has the same filing status as last year; and
- Is not deceased.

Otherwise, do not print the asterisks.

# Personal Income Taxpayer Name and Address Entry Instructions

Use these instructions when you enter your client's name and address information. It will help reduce processing time and help ensure that refunds are mailed to the correct name(s) and address.

- Alpha characters must be in upper case, Courier, 12-point font.
- Other than the hyphen (-) and slash (/), use no punctuation or symbols in the Street Address field.

See Taxpayer Entity Information Examples: JORDAN A TAXPAYER and AUSTIN M TEXAN on page 5.

- Do not use commas or periods to separate address information.
- Do not space or use punctuation in the Name Control (first four letters of the taxpayer's last name) field.

Example: McPeak
O'Toole
De Martino
Lee
Lee-Smith
Enter: MCPE
Enter: OTOO
Enter: DEMA
Enter: LEE
Enter: LEE

**Note:** Form 541-ES and form FTB 3563: Name control is the first four letters of the estate's or trust's proper name and follows the estate's or trust's FEIN.

- Do not include titles or ranks such as DR, MD, ENSIGN, SGT, etc.
- Use Roman numerals (alpha characters) for numeric suffixes that follow the last name.
- Never space in name field(s). Exception: Use one space for JR, SR, II, etc. following the last name.

Example: First Name: JoAnne Enter: JOANNE
Last Name: Von Wodtke
Last Name: Lee-Smith
Last Name: Rush, Sr. Enter: RUSH SR

Enter last name of taxpayer and/or spouse, if different from the last name used on last year's return, in the Prior Name fields. (Example: Marriage in the current tax year changes spouse's maiden name.)

See Taxpayer Entity Information Example: JORDAN A TAXPAYER and KAITLYNN G TAXPAYER on page 5.

- The taxpayer and spouse SSN must be 11 digits (includes "-"). Enter "000-00-0000" in the SSN field if an individual has applied for or does not have an SSN. See next bullet.
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN): If a taxpayer has a "ITIN," it should be entered in the SSN field.

**Note:** Form 541-ES and form FTB 3563: The FEIN must be 10 digits (includes "-").

 Enter Principal Business Activity (PBA) code, if applicable, (scannable Form 540 and Long Form 540NR only). Otherwise, leave this field blank.

See *Taxpayer Entity Information Example:* SARAH E. LEE on page 5.

 Enter deceased date of death for taxpayer or spouse in appropriate field. Format is MM-DD-YY. No punctuation other than the "-."

See Taxpayer Entity Information: ROBERT J SMITH on page 5.

- Use standard abbreviations for the suffix of the street name. See "Standard Abbreviations" on page 5.
- Do not enter apartment and apartment number/letter in the Street Address field. Enter in the designated "Apartment" and "Apartment Number" fields. These fields are on the same line as the "Street Address" field. Note: Use these abbreviations in the "Apartment" field: APT, BLDG, SP, STE, RM, FL, and UN.

See Taxpayer Entity Information Example: MICKEY J BEEHAPPY and LYNN S BEEHAPPY on page 5.

 Additional Address field is a supplemental field used only for: "in care of" name and additional address information. Other than slash(/) use no punctuation or symbols in this field.

See *Taxpayer Entity Information Example:* AUSTIN M TEXAN on page 5.

- · Military "APO" or "FPO" addresses:
  - Enter "APO" or "FPO" in the first three positions of the City field.
  - **Do not** enter the name of the city for "APO" and "FPO" addresses.
  - Enter two-character alpha state code in the State field;

City field	State Code	ZIP Code Range
APO	AA	34000-34099
APO	AE	09000-09999
FPO	AP	96200-96699 and 9870

See Taxpayer Entity Information Example: ELIJAH M MISSION on page 5.

- In the State field, use the standard two-digit abbreviation for the state or United States possession. See "State or U.S. Possessions" on page 5.
- If using a foreign address, enter the country beginning in the City field. (The foreign address field overlays the State and ZIP Code fields, plus five additional positions. The overlay area is for the foreign country name and, if applicable, the foreign country postal code.)
- The ZIP Code can be 10 digits (includes hyphen "-").
- Apply these guidelines, then truncate if the information exceeds the field length.

#### **Taxpayer Entity Information Examples:**

111-11-1111	LEE	**	06	PBA	123456
SARAH	E	LEE			

1234 STATE ST

111-11-1111 MISS \*\*

M MISSION

HATITIE

PO BOX 888

CROWN	CA 12345	
111-11-1111 JORDAN KAITLYNN	TAXP 222-22- A TAXPAYER G TAXPAYER	-2222 06 SINGLENFREE
12345½ SHORT ANYPLACE	ST CA 12345	
111-11-1111	TEXA **	06
AUSTIN	M TEXAN	
HOMESTYLE NU 1234 BEAUTIF WELCOME		
111-11-1111 MICKEY	BEEH 222-22-22 J BEEHAPPY	222 06
LYNN	S BEEHAPPY	
	S BEEHAPPY	STE 141 PMB 263 89
LYNN 9876 LONGNAM	S BEEHAPPY  E WY  CA 12345-678  SMIT  J SMITH 03-	
LYNN 9876 LONGNAM WALLACE 111-11-1111	S BEEHAPPY  E WY  CA 12345-678  SMIT  J SMITH 03-	89 06 -12-06

Note: If there is no spouse name, leave the line blank. If there is no additional address or executor/guardian name, leave the line blank.

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#### **Standard Abbreviations**

AIR FORCE BASE APARTMENT AVENUE BOULEVARD BUILDING CAUSEWAY CENTER CIRCLE COURT CROSSING DEPARTMENT DRIVE EAST * EXPRESSWAY FLOOR FREEWAY HIGHWAY LANE LOOP NORTH * NORTHEAST * NORTHWEST * NUMBER	AFB APT AV BL BLDG CSWY CTR CIR CT XING DEPT DR E EXPY FL FWY HWY LN LP N NE NW NO	PARKWAY PLACE PLAZA POINT POST OFFICE BOX ROAD ROOM SAN/SANTO SOUTH * SOUTHEAST * SOUTHWEST * SPACE SQUARE STREET SUITE TERRACE TRACK UNIT WALK WALKWAY WAY WEST *	PKY PL PLZ PT PO BX RD RM SN S SE SW SP SQ ST STE TER TRAK UN WK WY WY WY
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Never use mixed upper/lower case or # sign. \*Abbreviate only when used as a direction.

#### State and U.S. Possessions Abbreviations

Alabama	AL	Montana	MT
Alaska	AK	Nebraska	NE
American Samoa	AS	Nevada	NV
Arizona	AZ	New Hampshire	NH
Arkansas	AR	New Jersey	NJ
California	CA	New Mexico	NM
Colorado	CO	New York	NY
Connecticut	CT	North Carolina	NC
Delaware	DE	North Dakota	ND
Dist Columbia	DC	Northern Mariana	
Federated States		Islands	MP
of Micronesia	FM	Ohio	ОН
Florida	FL	Oklahoma	OK
Georgia	GA	Oregon	OR
Guam	GU	Palau	PW
Hawaii	HI	Pennsylvania	PA
Idaho	ID	Puerto Rico	PR
Illinois	IL	Rhode Island	RI
Indiana	IN	South Carolina	SC
Iowa	IA	South Dakota	SD
Kansas	KS	Tennessee	TN
Kentucky	KY	Texas	TX
Louisiana	LA	Utah	UT
Maine	ME	Vermont	VT
Marshall Islands	MH	Virgin Islands	VI
Maryland	MD	Virginia	VA
Massachusetts	MA	Washington	WA
Michigan	MI	West Virginia	WV
Minnesota	MN	Wisconsin	WI
Mississippi	MS	Wyoming	WY
Missouri	MO		

### **Miscellaneous Information**

Tax Preparer Identification Number: SSN, PTIN, and FEIN Tax preparers have the option of using either their SSN or PTIN in the "Paid preparer's SSN/PTIN" box in addition to their FEIN when signing tax returns for their clients.

#### **Direct Deposit of Refund (DDR)**

DDR is available to your clients who file their personal income tax return electronically or on paper and to your business entity clients who file Forms 100, 100W, 100S, and 109. When your clients select this option, be sure to complete ALL DDR fields in the "Direct Deposit of Refund" area (Side 2 on personal income tax returns; Side 1 on business entity income tax returns).

#### **Payment Options**

- Web Pay Your clients can enjoy the convenience of online bill payment with Web Pay. This secure service lets them pay the current amount owed and schedule future payments, such as estimated tax, up to one year in advance. They select the amount to pay and when to pay it. We deduct the payment from their bank account on the date selected. Your client's social security number or ITIN, bank account and routing number, and current customer service number is needed to use this service. Go to our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov and search for Web Pay.
- Credit Card Whether your clients e-file or file by mail, they may use their Discover/NOVUS, MasterCard, Visa, or American Express to pay their tax (tax return balance, extension payment, estimated tax payment, or tax due with bill notice). They can make payments online or by phone. For more information about fees, etc., call (800) 272-9829, or visit the Website www.officialpayments.com.
- Check Using the current year's form to make a current year payment, your clients should:
  - Make a check or money order payable to the "Franchise Tax Board."

**Note:** Make all checks or money orders payable in U.S. dollars and drawn against a U.S. financial institution.

- 2. Write their social security number or ITIN, tax form, and tax year on the check or money order.
- Mail the payment to the correct address. Go to our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov and select Mailing addresses.

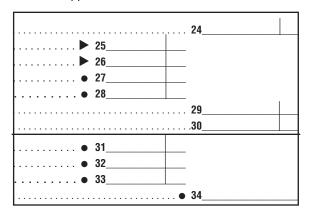
#### What are Keying Symbols?

Keying symbols are important. Although we process most personal income tax returns through our automated imaging system, there are times when certain returns require manual intervention by our KDOs.

Keying symbols are shown on all computer-prepared tax returns, including the conventional areas on sides 1 and 2 of scannable Form 540. They will print to the left of specified tax data line numbers. They reduce time and guide KDOs to enter the correct tax return information.

Exact placement, shape, and size of keying symbols that will be present on the 2006 personal income tax returns is shown below in the snapshot of a 2006 Form 540.

**Note:** Before you give your clients their returns to file, please verify that these symbols are present. If they are not present, please read your software company's user manual to make sure you have the minimum hardware and printer fonts necessary to print FTB-approved forms. If you cannot determine why the keying symbols do not print correctly, contact your software provider's technical support staff.



#### **Fiscal Year Filers**

If any of your clients file their personal income tax return on a fiscal year basis, the tax software you use must accommodate their needs. Not all tax software products support the filing of fiscal year personal income tax returns. As a result, you may need to complete the tax returns for your fiscal year clients by hand.

Always remember to enter the fiscal year date as the filing date for your fiscal year clients; otherwise, we will process the tax return as a calendar year tax return. When this happens, the tax return most likely will appear to be delinquent in some way. As a result, your fiscal year clients could receive a delinquent or late payment of tax penalty or an underpayment of estimated tax penalty and may be assessed interest.

Contact your software provider and confirm the tax software you use supports fiscal year filing for personal income tax filers.

#### **Prior Year and Amended Returns**

**Do not** use 2006 software to file a prior year tax return. File current year forms for current year tax liabilities. (e.g., Use the 2007 Form 540-ES to make 2007 estimate tax payments.)

Amend personal income tax Forms 540, 540A, 540 2EZ, and Long or Short 540NR by completing Form 540X, Amended Individual Income Tax Return. **Note:** When amending Long or Short Form 540NR, you **must** also attach a revised Long or Short Form 540NR to Form 540X.

Amend corporate income tax Forms 100, 100S, and 100W by completing Form 100X, Amended Corporation Franchise or Income Tax Return.

### **Payment Forms (Vouchers)**

There are several types of scannable payment vouchers:

- Form 100-ES, Corporation Estimated Tax, is used by business entities to figure and pay the business entity's estimated tax.
- Form 540-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals, is used by individual taxpayers to figure and pay their estimated tax.
- Form 541-ES, Estimated Tax for Fiduciaries, is used to figure and pay estimated tax for an estate or trust.
- Form FTB 3519, Automatic Extension for Individuals, is used only if individual taxpayers cannot file their 2006 tax return by April 16, 2007, and tax is due.
- Form FTB 3522, LLC Tax Voucher, is used to pay the annual LLC Tax of \$800 for 2007.
- Form FTB 3537, Automatic Extension for LLCs, is used only
  if a limited liability company owes tax or fees for 2006 and is
  unable to file Form 568, Limited Liability Company Return of
  Income, by the original due date.
- Form FTB 3538, Automatic Extension for LPs, LLPs, and REMICs, is used only if a partnership owes tax for 2006 and is unable to file Form 565, Partnership Return of Income, by the original due date.
- Form FTB 3539, Automatic Extension for Corporations and Exempt Organizations, is used only if a corporation or exempt organization owes tax for 2006 and is unable to file its return by the original due date.
- Form FTB 3563 (541), Automatic Extension for Fiduciaries, is used only if an estate or trust cannot file Form 541, California Fiduciary Income Tax Return, by the original due date, and tax is due.
- Form FTB 3582 (e-file), Voucher for Individual e-filed Returns, is used only when a taxpayer electronically files their tax return and there is a balance due.
- Form FTB 3586 (e-file), Voucher for Corporation e-filed Returns, is used only when a corporation electronically files its tax return, and there is a balance due.

- Form FTB 3587 Voucher for LPs, LLPs, and REMICs e-filed Returns, is used **only** when a partnership electronically files its Form 565 tax return and there is a balance due.
- Form FTB 3588 Voucher for LLC e-filed Returns, is used only when a limited liability company electronically files its Form 568 tax return and there is a balance due.

Do not use any of the forms shown above to make installment payments for your clients that owe tax. Only we can set up an installment agreement plan for your clients. Get form FTB 3567, Installment Agreement Request, for information on how to request an installment agreement plan for your clients. The taxpayer or you, as the preparer, can access our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov (select "Installment Agreement Request") for more information or to download forms to request an installment agreement.

Remind your clients NOT to mail any voucher, listed above to FTB if the "Amount of payment" is zero (0).

# FTB Taxpayer Signature and Authentication Policy

Our policy is to ensure proper authentication of the information provided to us by taxpayers. The level of authentication needed on specific documents depends on several factors, including how we use the information. To help you determine whether or not we will accept photocopies or facsimiles of a taxpayer's signature, we have categorized the level of signature authentication required into three groups. The category and its number (C1, C2, or C3) will print after the form number on each tax form. The three categories are:

Category 1 (C1)	Original authentication required; facsimiles acceptable only if original is subsequently
Category 2 (C2)	provided. Copy of signature is sufficient proof that
oalogory 2 (O2)	original was signed; photocopy or facsimile is
	acceptable.
Category 3 (C3)	No authentication required.

# Additional Credit Names, Codes, and Acronym Names

The tax software you use should include the credit acronym and code number for each additional credit shown below. See "Claiming Additional Credits on Personal and Business Entity Tax Returns (Forms 100, 100S, 100W, 540, and Long Form 540NR)," on this page.

*DIT D	. T	*OT 0	T		Progran
*PIT = Personal Income	e iax	*CT = Corporation			Employer F
Credit Name	<u>Code</u>	<u>Acronym</u>	<u>PIT</u> *	CT*	Large E
Child Adoption	197	CHILD ADOPT	Χ		Prograr
Child and Dependent					Small Emp
Care Expenses	NONE	NONE	Χ		Employer S
Community Development					Public 7
Financial Institution					Energy Co
Deposits	209	CDFI DEPOSIT	X	X	Joint Strike
Dependent Parent	173	DEP PARENT	Χ		Propert
Disabled Access for					Wages
Eligible Small					Los Angele
Businesses	205	DSABL ACCESS	Χ	X	Zone H
Donated Agricultural					or Use
Products	004	DONATE AGTRN	X	X	Low-Emiss
Transportation	204	DONALE AGTAN	^	^	Manufactui
Employer Child Care Contribution	190	CHLDCARE CTR	X	X	Investm
	190	CHLDCARE CTR	^	^	Orphan Dr
Employer Child Care	189	CHLDCARE PRG	Χ	X	Political Co
Program				, ,	Recycling I
Enhanced Oil Recovery	203	ENHNC OILREC	Χ	Χ	

Repealed Credits with Carryover	Codo	A - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11 -	DIT*	<b>C</b> -
Teacher Retention Credit	Suspended	for tax years 2005 and	d 2006	
Targeted Tax Area (TTA) Hiring & Sales or Use Tax	210	TTA HIRE/USE	Х	Х
Senior Head of Household	163	SR HOH	Χ	
Rice Straw	206	RICE STRAW	Χ	Χ
Research	183	RESEARCH	Χ	Χ
Prison Inmate Labor	162	INMATE LABOR	Χ	Χ
Prior Year Alternative Minimum Tax	188	PRIOR YR AMT	X	Х
Other State Tax	187	OTHER STATE	X	
Nonrefundable Renter's Credit	NONE	NONE	Х	
Natural Heritage Preservation Tax	213	HERITAGE	X	Х
Manufacturing Enhancement Area (MEA) Hiring	211	MEA HIRE	X	Х
Low-Income Housing	172	LOW-INC HOUS	Χ	Χ
Local Agency Military Base Recovery Area (LAMBRA) Hiring & Sales or Use Tax	198	LAMBRA HR/US	X	X
Joint Custody Head of Household	170	JT CSTDY HOH	Х	
New Construction/ Rehabilitation New Construction/ Rehabilitation Loans	207 208	F/W HS CONST F/W HS LOAN		X X
Farmworker Housing:				
& Sales or Use Tax Environmental Tax	176 218	E/Z HIRE/USE ENVRNMNTL TAX	X X	X
Enterprise Zone Hiring				
Enterprise Zone Employee	169	E/Z EMPLE	X	

Enternrice Zene

**Provisions** 

Agricultural Products	175	AGRI PRODUCT	Χ	Χ
Commercial Solar				
Electric System	196	COMSLR EL CO	Χ	Χ
Commercial Solar	101	0014 01 D 11D0		
Energy	181	COM SLR NRG	Χ	Χ
Contribution of Computer Software	202	CTB COMPSOFT		Χ
Employee Ridesharing: Employee Vanpool				
Program	194	R/S EMPLE VN	X	
Employer Ridesharing: Large Employer				
Program	191	R/S LG EMPLR	Χ	Χ
Small Employer Program	192	R/S SM EMPL	X	Χ
Employer Subsidized				
Public Transit Passes	193	R/S TRANSIT	Χ	X
Energy Conservation	182	NRG CSRV CO	X	X
Joint Strike Fighter:				
Property Costs	216	JSFPROPERTY	X	X
Wages	215	JSFWAGES	X	Χ
Los Angeles Revitalization Zone Hiring & Sales	1			
or Use Tax	159	LARZ HRE/USE	Χ	Χ
Low-Emission Vehicles	160	LOW-EMS VHCL	X	X
Manufacturers'		2011 20 11.02	,,	
Investment	199	MFG INVSTMNT	Χ	Χ
Orphan Drug	185	ORPHN DRG CO	X	Χ
Political Contributions	184	POLTCL CTB	Χ	
Recycling Equipment	174	RCYCL EQUIP	Χ	Χ

Code

Acronym

CT\*

Credit Name	Code	<u>Acronym</u>	PIT*	CT*
Residential Rental				
& Farms Sales	186	RES RNT/FARM	Χ	
Ridesharing	171	R/S CO	Χ	Χ
Salmon & Steelhead Trou	t			
Habitat Restoration	200	SALMON/TROUT	Χ	Χ
Solar Energy System	180	SLR NRG CO	Χ	Χ
Solar Pump	179	SLR PUMP CO	Χ	Χ
Technological Property				
Contribution	201	TECHPROP CTB		Χ
Water Conservation	178	WATRCSRV CO	Χ	
Young Infant	161	YNG INFNT CO	Χ	

### **Additional Credits**

Field numbers 25 and 26 in the scanband on Form 540 are where your clients' additional credit amounts, if any, print. The appropriate three-digit numeric credit code number **must** precede the additional credit amount.

#### **Additional Credit Example**

Dependent Parent Credit (code 173) of \$20 in field number 25. The scanband on Form 540 will look like this:

# Claiming Additional Credits on Personal and Business Entity Tax Returns (Forms 100, 100S, 100W, 540, and Long Form 540NR)

When your clients claim additional credits, the credit acronym, code number, and amount should print on the applicable lines of Forms 100, 100S, 100W, 540, and Long Form 540NR. (**Note:** The credit acronym, code number, and amount of credit will print on the applicable line on side 2 of scannable Form 540.)

When a client claims credits on Schedule P (100, 100W, 540, or 540NR) and the credits are listed in more than one section, the tax software you use should total column (b) of the credits that have the same code numbers and bring the total forward to the applicable line of the tax return being filed.

If your client has any other credits to claim on Schedule P (100, 100W, 540, or 540NR), the tax software you use should add the amounts from column (b) for those credits and bring the total forward to the applicable line of the tax return being filed.

### California's e-file Program

California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 18621.9 requires practitioners who prepare more than 100 individual state income tax returns annually and who prepare one or more current year returns using tax preparation software to e-file. For more information about mandatory e-file, go to www.ftb.ca.gov and search for Mandatory e-file.

The FTB and the IRS have approved over 40,000 tax practitioners to provide e-filing services to the more than seven million California taxpayers expected to e-file during the 2007 filling season. Participating in the California e-file Program has many benefits for you and your clients. Here are some highlights:

- Faster refunds Refunds can be deposited directly into your client's bank account within five to seven banking days after the tax return is filed.
- Proof of receipt We provide acknowledgement that we have accepted the tax return for processing.
- Opportunity to correct errors Our system performs up-front edits on all incoming e-file tax returns. We let you know if we detect any errors, what those errors are, and allow you time to make any corrections. This step reduces subsequent notices to your clients.

- Accurate tax returns Because most errors can be resolved before we accept your tax return for processing, less than one percent of e-file tax returns require special handling.
- Safe We use the latest technologies to ensure the security and privacy of all taxpayer information. We receive most tax returns via modem transmission. Our Internet filing portal uses 128-bit Secure Socket Layer encryption-the industry standard. We have never experienced a breach of security in our e-file system. We have successfully processed over 25 million tax returns since 1994.

# How to join the California e-file Program

To participate in the California e-file Program, you must:

- Be currently enrolled in the IRS e-file Program. Submit an application, federal Form 8633, to the IRS. Get the application from their Website at www.irs.gov.
- Have an approved electronic filer identification number (EFIN).
   Once the IRS approves your application, they will assign you an EFIN that we will also use.
- Complete and submit our online California e-file Program
   Participant Enrollment form (FTB 8633). To find the online
   enrollment form, go to www.ftb.ca.gov and search for Join
   the e-file program.
- Pass our suitability check. All business entities must be valid and licensed, their tax returns must be filed on time, and their liabilities must be paid and current.

We will notify you of your acceptance in the program and provide you with a CD of e-file resources. Keep your acceptance letter for your records.

#### To find out more about the California e-file Program:

- Go to our Website at www.ftb.ca.gov.
- · Email your inquiries to e-file@ftb.ca.gov.
- Call the e-file Help Desk at (916) 845-0353, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., except state holidays.

## Guidelines on How to Enter Taxpayer Entity Information on Computer-Prepared Business Entity (BE) Tax Vouchers

#### BE Entity ID Number, Name, and Address Entry Instructions

BE entity information is arranged in fixed positions with defined field lengths. Each field is dedicated to hold specific information. Use these instructions when you enter your client's entity ID number, name, and address information. It will help reduce processing time and help ensure refunds are mailed to the correct name and address.

- All taxpayer data must print in Courier 12-point font, not bold.
- · Alpha characters must be upper case.
- Entity ID number is a corporation number, federal employer identification number (FEIN), or Secretary of State (SOS) file identification number. The number can be up to 12 digits, including hyphen.
  - Entity ID Number field must be one of the following:
  - Form 100-ES, FTB 3539, and FTB 3586
    - Corporation number Numeric, 7 digits, no preceding alpha character or dashes, spaces, or punctuation; includes leading zeros (e.g., "1234567" or "0000000")

- Forms FTB 3538 and 3587
  - FEIN Numeric, 10 digits, includes hyphen (-) (e.g., "12-3456789" or "00-0000000")
- Forms FTB 3522, 3537, and 3588
  - SOS File Number Numeric, 10 or 12 digits (If SOS File Number is 10 digits, precede with zeros (e.g., "001234567891"). The SOS file number must begin with 19 or 20 (e.g., "200412345678")
- When the entity has applied for or does not have an Entity ID Number, enter the appropriate number of zeros in the Entity ID Number field. When entering zeros for the FEIN, include the hyphen (e.g., "00-0000000")
- Entity Name Control field must contain the first 4 characters of the corporation, exempt organization, partnership, or LLC name with these exceptions:
  - Spell out ampersand (&) as "AND" if (&) is contained in the first 4 characters of the Entity's name. (See Business Entity Information Example 1 on page 9.)
  - Do not space or use symbols or any punctuation, including hyphens (-) and slashes (/). (See Business Entity Information Example 2 on page 9.)
  - Do not use "The" when it is the first word in the Entity's name.
     (See Business Entity Information Example 4 on this page)
  - Do not use punctuation, hyphens, or blanks in the name control.

Examples: Entity name: The LTP LLC Enter: LTPL Entity name: ABC Incorporated Enter: ABCI Entity name: 012-015 Apts Enter: 0120 Entity name: 9 Twelve Entity name: BZX Enter: BZX Enter: 912

- Enter Form Type Indicator as:
  - Forms 100, 100S, and 100W = 1
  - Form 109 = 2
  - Form 199 = 3
  - If more than one form, or no form indicated = 0

**Note:** Refer to the specifications for each business entity form to confirm the applicable Form Type Indicator to program for that form.

- Enter Taxable Year Beginning (TYB) and Taxable Year Ending (TYE)
  - TYB = "MM-DD-YY" (Enter "00-00-00" only if TYB is unknown.
  - TYE = "MM-DD-YY" (Enter "00-00-00" **only** if TYE is unknown.
  - Enter Business Entity name Use business name, as is:
  - The corporation, partnership, or LLC name may contain embedded spaces, hyphens (-), slashes (/), and ampersands (&). (See Business Entity Information Examples 1, 2, and 3 on this page)
  - Do not use any other symbols or punctuation in the Business Entity Name field.
- Street Address Information:
  - Other than the hyphen (-) and slash (/), use no punctuation or symbols in the Street Address field
  - Do not use commas or periods to separate address information
  - Use standard abbreviations for the suffix of the street name.
     See "Standard Abbreviations" on page 5.
  - Do not enter suite and suite number/letter in the Street Address field. Enter in the designated "Suite" and "Suite

- Number" fields. These fields are on the same line as the "Street Address" field. **Note:** Use these abbreviations in the "Suite" field: STE, RM, FL, BLDG, and UN
- Enter Private Mailbox (PMB) and PMB number/letter in the "PMB" and "PMB number/letter" fields. These fields are on the same line as the "Street Address" field. **Do not** hardcode "PMB." "PMB" will print with a PMB number/letter. If no "PMB," leave both fields blank.
- Use the Additional Information field for "Doing Business As" (DBA), "Owner/Representative/Attention" name, and other supplemental address information only. Other than the slash (/), use no punctuation or symbols in this field
- · Military "APO" or "FPO" addresses:
  - Enter "APO" or "FPO" in the first three positions of the City field.
  - Do not enter the name of the city for "APO" and "FPO" addresses. Enter the two-digit state code in the State field:

City Field	State Field	ZIP Code Range
APO	AA	34000-34099
APO	AE	09000-09999
FPO	AP	96200-96699 and 9870

- In the State field, use the standard two-character alpha abbreviation for the state or United States possession. See "State or U.S. Possessions" on page 5.
- If using a foreign address, enter the country beginning in the State field. (The foreign address field overlays the State and ZIP Code fields, plus five additional positions. The overlay area is for the foreign country name and, if applicable, the foreign country's postal code.)
- The ZIP Code can be 10 digits (includes hyphen "-").
- Apply these guidelines, then truncate if the information exceeds the field length.

#### **Business Entity Information Examples:**

#### Example 1 Corporation

0000823 LPAN 44-1234567 (123) 456-7890 06 FORM 1
TYB 01-01-06 TYE 12-31-06
LP & T CONSULTING SERVICES INCORPORATED
B GANGLER
9646 BUTTERFIELD WY
RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95670-3720

#### Example 2 Partnership

99-7654321 LZ 1999712345678 (123) 456-7890 06 FORM 0 TYB 01-01-06 TYE 12-31-06 L - Z

5800 SANTA ANITA AV STE 2 EL MONTE CA 92102-1230

#### Example 3 LLC:

200387654321 2011 95-8654321 (123) 456-7890 06 FORM 0 TYB 00-00-00 TYE 00-00-00 2011-2015-2017-2019 WHASSUP

4900 W CAMBRIDGE

ATLANTA GA 30303

#### **Example 4 Exempt Organization:**

7777888 LTPL 99-7777777 (123) 456-7890 06 FORM 0
TYB 01-01-04 TYE 12-31-04
THE LTP LLC
C VEGA
4545 BUTTERFLY LN PMB 15
SACRAMENTO CA 95823

### **Filing Business Entity Returns**

To ensure accurate and timely processing of your clients' business entity returns that require Schedules K-1 (100S, 541, 565, or 568), use software that produces the FTB-approved schedules. Make sure that the substitute forms you use meet our requirements. Schedules K-1 (565 and 568) filed with incomplete information may cause us to contact the partnership or limited liability company (LLC) for more information or return the Schedules K-1 to the partnership or LLC. Either circumstance may subject the partnership or LLC to penalties.

#### Note: Do not file

- · K-1 data on microfiche;
- Federal Schedule K-1 (Sch. 1065);
- · Database printout information; or
- · Abbreviated schedules.

## California Encourages Tax Preparers to File Paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568)

For the highest rate of accuracy and rapid processing of your clients' Schedules K-1 (565 or 568), file them on CD or diskette.

If you want to produce Schedules K-1 (565 or 568), use software that produces FTB-approved paperless formatting or contact a professional who can format them for you. For more information, go to our Website at **www.ftb.ca.gov** and get FTB Pub.1062, Guide for Filing Paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) and K-1 (565 or 568), TestWare.

Mail Forms 565 and 568 to the FTB using the appropriate addresses. Do not attach paper Schedules K-1 (565 or 568).

## Compliance with Partnership and LLC Filing Requirements for Paperless Schedules K-1 (565 and 568)

Before you submit your clients' paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568), make sure you complete the procedures shown below. Doing so will further ensure error-free files and timely processing.

#### Note:

- Mail Forms 565 and 568 to the FTB using the appropriate addresses. Do not attach paper Schedules K-1 (565 or 568).
- Confirm Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) have been formatted and put on a CD or diskette for each person identified on Forms 565. Question K or 568. Question J.
- Confirm all fields on the Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) are formatted and completed as described in FTB Pub. 1062.
- Verify the paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) that you format on a CD or diskette, reconcile to Forms 565 or 568, Schedule K-1 (565 or 568), and have been pre-tested with the K-1 (565 or 568) TestWare.
- Provide your clients with the information contained on their paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) before April 15, or the applicable filing date. Reminder: The information you provide your clients does not have to print on a Schedule K-1 (565 or 568); it may be in a test format.

You can download and send multiple partnership and LLC Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) to us on the same CD or diskette. It is not necessary to provide a separate CD or diskette for each individual partnership or LLC. Use form FTB 3604, Transmittal of Paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568), on CD or diskette, to provide the name, FEIN, and number of Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) that are included for each partnership or LLC on the CD or diskette.

#### K-1 (565 or 568) TestWare

We provide K-1 (565 or 568) TestWare as a tool to help you accurately prepare paperless Schedules K-1 (565 or 568). The program validates the K-1 (565 or 568) files and enables you

to submit your clients' Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) error-free via CD or diskette. The TestWare can also expand your files from a delimited format into the format required to process the K-1 information through our mainframe. **Reminder:** You can download a copy of the K-1 (565 or 568) TestWare from our Website at **www.ftb.ca.gov** or you can call the e-file Help Desk at (916) 845-0353.

Substitute Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) Filing Requirements If you choose to develop your clients' Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) (paperless or paper format), you must follow the same substitute forms review and approval requirements used by tax software developers, transfer agents, and others. You must complete and return to the FTB form FTB 1096, Agreement to Comply with FTB Pub. 1098, Annual Requirements. FTB Pub. 1098, Guidelines for the Development and Use of Substitute, Scannable, and Reproduced Tax Forms, includes the information you need to develop FTB-approved forms. To get a copy of form FTB 1096 or FTB Pub. 1098, go to www.ftb.ca.gov.

**Note:** The paper format of Schedules K-1 (565 or 568) may be either a one-sided or two-sided format. The one-sided format includes only those tax data lines applicable to the partner or member. The two-sided format includes all tax data lines. Software companies choose the format to include in their tax products and both formats require approval from the FTB.

# **Common Trusts and Investment Clubs**

Common trust funds and investment clubs should use Form 565, Partnership Return of Income, to report their filing information. To help ensure accurate processing, common trust funds are required to use the principal business activity (PBA) code 525920. Investment clubs are required to use PBA code 523910. For further information, see the instructions for federal Form 1065, U.S. Partnership Return of Income.

### **Power of Attorney (POA) Program**

We have a centralized POA database where we store POA declaration information we receive from your customers and clients. Only authorized FTB employees can view the POA declaration information.

We can mail a copy of most FTB computer-generated notices (some computer-generated notices are not yet available for this service) to the primary representative.

For more information about the Power of Attorney program get FTB Pub.1144, Power of Attorney Frequently Asked Questions. This publication is available on our Website at **www.ftb.ca.gov**.

**PLEASE NOTE:** When filing a Power of Attorney from any other state agency, the form used must clearly state that the taxpayer wishes to be represented for FTB matters by specifying the exact tax year and California form number in question (e.g., 2006 California Form 540).

**The Power of Attorney Form** – Form FTB 3520, Power of Attorney:

To ensure accurate and timely processing of your client's POA declaration, be sure to provide the required information:

- · Taxpayer's name and address.
- Taxpayer's social security number (or ITIN, if applicable) and/or business identification number.
- Name, address, telephone, and fax number of the individual(s) the taxpayer is authorizing to represent them.
- The specific years or periods involved.

- A clear expression of the authorities the taxpayer is granting the representative.
- Taxpayer's signature and date. If a joint authorization, both spouses must sign.
- For fiduciary or corporate Power of Attorney a signature and title are required.

#### How to File a Power of Attorney with FTB

Mail to:

POWER OF ATTORNEY FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 2828

RANCHO CORDOVA CA 95741-2828

For faster service, you may FAX form FTB 3520 to the FTB at: (916) 845-0523.

# Where To Get Income Tax Forms and Publications By Internet

Go to our Website at www.ftb.ca.

# Tax Professionals Services Available on the FTB Website

Be sure and visit the Tax Professionals area on our Website at **www.ftb.ca.gov**. You will find helpful information to fulfill the needs of CPAs, enrolled agents, and attorneys. Subjects covered on the web page are:

- e-file for tax professionals online services and other paperless options
- · Compliance initiatives
- · Law, legislation, & form updates
- · Practitioner services
- · Procedures & practices
- · Tax agencies and professional organizations
- Subscription services

#### FTB's Tax Practitioner Services

The Practitioners' Hotline is dedicated to helping CPAs, enrolled agents, attorneys, and other tax practitioners with questions on tax law, forms, California reporting requirements, and account resolution matters.

We encourage you to provide any of the acceptable Power Of Attorney forms to us. The information you provide on any of these forms allows you to receive confidential or sensitive taxpayer information. We will accept the following Power of Attorney forms:

- Forms FTB 3520, Power of Attorney, and FTB 3520C-1, Power of Attorney Declaration for Administration of Tax Matters,
- Board of Equalization (BOE) Form 392, Power of Attorney,
- Federal Form 8821, Tax Information Authorization,
- Federal Form 2848, Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative,
- Employment Development Department Form DE 48, Power of Attorney.

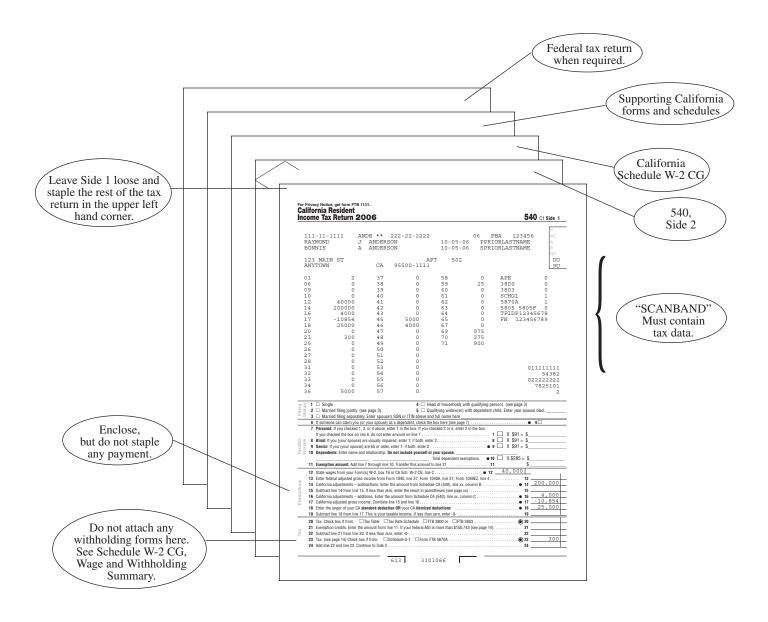
**Note:** The BOE, EDD, and federal forms must clearly state that the taxpayer also wishes to be represented for FTB matters by specifying the exact year and California form number in question (e.g. 2006 California Form 540).

The Tax Practitioners' Hotline telephone number is (916) 845-7057. If you call, be ready to provide client information such as social security number (or ITIN, if applicable), latest notice received, or facts relating to the inquiry. Customer Service Representatives can respond to questions on both personal income tax law and corporation tax law.

You can FAX correspondence 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The FAX number is (916) 845-6377. When you FAX your correspondence, be sure your cover sheet includes your business letterhead, FAX number, and daytime telephone number. In addition, please submit a copy of your Power of Attorney (form FTB 3520), if you have not already submitted one to us. To help ensure a response by FAX, it is recommended that you keep your FAX machine turned on at all times.

The Tax Practitioner's Hotline is staffed year round, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., except holidays.

## 2006 Scannable Form 540 Assembly Guidelines



# Tax Practitioner Tips for Computer-Preparing, Assembling, and Mailing Scannable Form 540

Item/Activity	Scannable Form 540
Monetary Amounts (Taxpayer's Tax Data)	Monetary amounts <b>must</b> print in the scanband and <b>must</b> be whole dollars without decimal points or other punctuation. Monetary amounts in the conventional area of the form must include decimal points or a vertical rule (penny line). <b>Note:</b> Most software is programmed to print whole dollars only followed by a decimal point.
Additional Credits Line 25 and Line 26	Credit acronym, code number, and amount will print on the applicable line(s) on Side 2 of the form. See example on page 7.
Direct Deposit of Refund (DDR)	DDR consists of three fields for two separate accounts:  1) DDR routing number (Must be 9 positions. The first two positions <b>must</b> be 01 through 12 or 21 through 32);  2) DDR account number; and  3) DDR account type. You must complete <b>all fields</b> for each DDR options you select. <b>Otherwise, leave all fields blank</b> .
FTB-Supplied Label*	<b>Do not</b> apply the FTB-supplied label to the tax return. FTB will capture the information that the software prints on the tax return.
Making Corrections*	<b>Do not</b> make corrections on the tax return. <b>Do not</b> modify the name(s), address, or tax data information. If there is an error, print a new tax return.
Submit Original Tax Returns*	Submit original (hardcopy) tax returns. Do not submit a photocopy. Tax returns should be single-sided, not two-sided.
Attaching California Supporting Forms and Federal Forms	Scannable Form 540 may require attachments. Include California supporting forms and schedules behind California Schedule W-2 CG, and follow with federal forms and schedules.
Attaching Wage Statements	California Schedule W-2 CG, Wage and Withholding Summary – If your software doesn't populate this form, you must staple "state" copy of Form(s) W-2, W-2G, and any Form(s) 592-B, 593-B, 594, and 1099 showing CA tax withheld to it. Attach Schedule W-2 CG directly behind Side 2 of scannable Form 540.
Enclosing payment	Enclose check or money order with tax return. Do not staple to tax return.
Assembling Tax Return	Leave Side 1 loose, staple Side 2 and any attachments in the upper left-hand corner. Make all payments payable in U.S. dollars and drawn against a U.S. financial institution.
Where to Mail the Tax Return	REFUND OR NO AMOUNT DUE: FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942840 SACRAMENTO CA 94240-0009
	AMOUNT YOU OWE: FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942867 SACRAMENTO CA 94267-0009

<sup>\*</sup>Apply these rules to all scannable vouchers (Forms 100-ES, 540-ES, 541-ES, FTB 3519, 3522, 3537, 3538, 3539, 3563, 3582, 3586, 3587, and 3588). Mail to the address shown on each form.

# Tax Practitioner Tips for Computer-Preparing, Assembling, and Mailing Form 540 2EZ, Long or Short Form 540NR, and Form 540X

Item/Activity	Form 540 2EZ	Long or Short Form 540NR	Form 540X
Monetary Amounts (Taxpayer's Tax Data)	Monetary amounts may include decimal points or a vertical rule (penny line).	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.
Additional Credits	Your clients may not claim additional credits.	Credit acronym, code number, and amount will print on the applicable line(s) of Long Form 540NR only. (Your clients may not claim additional credits on Short Form 540NR.)	Not applicable.
Direct Deposit of Refund (DDR)	<ol> <li>DDR consists of three fields:</li> <li>DDR routing number (Must be 9 positions. The first two positions must be 01 through 12 or 21 through 32);</li> <li>DDR account number; and</li> <li>DDR account type. You must complete all fields for each DDR option you select. Otherwise, leave all fields blank.</li> </ol>	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Not applicable.
FTB-Supplied Label	<b>Do not</b> apply the FTB supplied label to the tax return. FTB will capture the information that the software prints on the tax return.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.
Making Corrections	Do not make handprint corrections on the tax return. Do not modify the name(s), address, or tax data information. If there is an error, print a new tax return.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.
Submit Original Tax Returns	Submit the original (hard copy) tax returns. <b>Do not</b> submit a photocopy.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.
Attaching California Supporting Forms and Federal Forms	<b>Never</b> attach the federal tax return.	Always attach the complete federal tax return, include the supporting schedules and forms.	Attach all supporting forms and schedules for items changed. Include federal forms and schedules if you made a change to your federal return. Include name and SSN for taxpayer (and taxpayer's spouse, if any,) (or ITIN, if applicable) on all attachments. Include complete copies of the Federal Audit Report(s) if you are reporting changes made by the IRS.
Attaching Wage Statements	California Schedule W-2 CG, Wage and Withholding Summary – If your software doesn't populate this form, you must staple "state" copy of Form(s) W-2, W-2G, and any Form(s) 592-B, 593-B, 594, and 1099 showing CA tax withheld to it.  Attach Schedule W-2 CG directly behind Side 2 of scannable Form 5402 EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.
Enclosing Payment	Enclose check or money order with tax return. <b>Do not</b> staple to tax return.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.
Where to Mail the Tax Return	Make all payments payable in U.S. dollars and drawn against a U.S. financial institution.  REFUND OR NO AMOUNT DUE: FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942840 SACRAMENTO CA 94240-0002  AMOUNT YOU OWE: FRANCHISE TAX BOARD PO BOX 942867 SACRAMENTO CA 94267-0001	Same as Form 540 2EZ.	Same as Form 540 2EZ.